

DANUBE CITY COUNCIL
Regular Council Meeting
Wednesday, August 8, 2012 7:00 PM
Danube City Council Chambers

A regular meeting of the Danube City Council was conducted on August 8, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. with Mayor Gene Alex presiding.

The following Councilmembers were present: Ryan Bentley, Dave Maurice, Phil Standfuss, and Al Strunc.

Councilmembers absent: none

Others Present: Xcel Energy Customer Relations Manager Scott Johnson, Chief of Police Les Schneider, City Clerk-Treasurer Sara Wilson, and media.

Approval of Agenda

Councilmember Standfuss moved and Councilmember Bentley seconded a motion to approve the Agenda with the addition of EDA, CCFE Sewer Line, and Budget Meeting Date under New Business. The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Consent Agenda

Councilmember Strunc moved and Councilmember Maurice seconded a motion to approve the consent agenda as listed below. The motion carried unanimously.

Consent Agenda – please see notes to agenda items below

The following items are considered routine or non-controversial by the Council and will be approved with one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a council member, city staff or citizen so requests, in which case the item (s) will be removed from the consent agenda and be considered in its normal sequence on the agenda.

- Minutes of Regular Meeting of July 11, 2012
- Building Permit Application for fence at 107 Main Street

Open Forum

none

Employee Report – Chief of Police

Chief of Police Les Schneider was present to give his monthly employee and Police Department report. Statistics for July 2012 were higher than last year at the same time with 71 calls, 46 reports, 35 traffic stops, 8 citations, 48 mutual assists and 4 home security checks.

Schneider updated the council on the schedule at the school building, training reimbursement submittal to the POST Board, training for the ARMER system and a successful Fun Days. There

is a teenager in need of some community service hours. The old squad car had some work done on the headlights and taillights.

Councilmember Strunc requested that Schneider check prices for a speed limit sign that tells traffic how fast they are going. Maybe there are grants available. Councilmember Maurice asked if the LETG system is up and running. It is. There are some bugs in it.

Xcel Energy Franchise Renewal

Scott Johnson, Xcel Energy Customer Relations Representative, was present to answer any questions regarding the renewal of a 20 year franchise agreement with the City of Danube.

Councilmember Strunc voiced his concern about signing a contract when the City is currently interested in pursuing an electric municipality. Mr. Johnson said that under state law, even if the City is in a contract, it has a right to move forward with their plan.

The council had various questions about street lights, ownerships of poles, service on poles and bulbs and electric rates. Mr. Johnson will put the proper people in touch with Kaufenberg and Wilson regarding these issues.

Employee Report – Public Works Director

In the council packets, councilmembers received a monthly report for Public Works Director Dan Kaufenberg. The report is hereby attached.

Councilmember Maurice moved and Councilmember Standfuss seconded a motion to replace the pump motor for well 5 at a price of \$1,250 for the pump and \$1,155 for the motor as quoted by Their Well. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilmember Strunc moved and Councilmember Bentley seconded a motion to approve the purchase of a paddleboat for use at the ponds. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilmember Standfuss asked that Kaufenberg be told that the town looked nice for Fun Days.

School Building Updates

Councilmember Strunc reported that the panels are done at the school. He feels caulking around the windows should be done but that is on hold. The major expenses have been taken care of.

Clerk Wilson asked on behalf of the Post Office about using the school gym for a town meeting regarding reducing the hours of the post office. The council said they could use the meeting room in the city office building and if there were too many people, the meeting could be moved across the street to the Community Center. There will be no charge for the use of either building.

Community Center Updates

none

Unfinished Business

Local Government Aid (LGA) was discussed at a recent Renville County 10 meeting that most council members attended. There will be future meetings bringing all 10 cities in Renville County together.

Councilmember Strunc moved and Councilmember Maurice seconded a motion to approve the partial pay estimate #5 to Monson Corporation amount of \$42,063.62. The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Bills

Councilmember Standfuss moved and Councilmember Maurice seconded a motion to approve the bills as submitted in the amount of \$94,176.86 (including the payment to Monson Corporation). The motion carried unanimously.

New Business

Pool Ordinance - no changes were made

Renville County Assessment Agreement

Councilmember Strunc moved and Councilmember Bentley seconded a motion to approve the Assessment Agreement between Renville County and the City of Danube for the 2013-2014 assessment years at a rate of \$10 per parcel for real property and \$5 per parcel for mobile home properties. The motion carried unanimously.

Letter from Resident

A letter was received from a resident requesting reimbursement for curbs they replaced 3 years ago. The council rejected this request because they don't approve things after the fact, the only pay for items approve in advance. Clerk Wilson will send a letter to the resident.

Councilmember Strunc moved and Councilmember Bentley seconded a motion to reject the request from a resident to reimburse non-approved curb expense from 3 years ago. The motion carried unanimously.

EDA – Past City Council Member Sharon Lothert resigned from the city council 2 months into the year of 2011. She asked to be paid for those 2 months and have that money applied to her restitution owed for the EDA theft. The council will allow this, but wants it know that this doesn't grant her permission to skip payments.

CCFE Sewer Line – clarification was needed on a bill from Lauritsen for unplugging the sewer line going to the new elevator site. The line is on elevator property. Per the council, the bill should be sent to CCFE.

Budget Meeting – the proposed tax levy needs to be set by September 15. The council decided to hold a budget workshop on Wednesday, August 29 at 7pm. They want Dan Kaufenberg, Les Schneider and Dan Wersal to submit budget numbers for their respective departments.

Adjournment

There being no further business before the council, Councilmember Bentley moved and Councilmember Maurice seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. With all members voting in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Sara Wilson, City Clerk

Gene Alex, Mayor

Sara Wilson, City Clerk